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**PATENT APPLICATION**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of

Docket No: Q88381

Masafumi FUKUNAGA

Appln. No.: 10/538,299

Group Art Unit: 3682

Confirmation No.: 1563

Examiner: Unknown

Filed: June 10, 2005

For: FOUR-POINT CONTACT BALL BEARING

**STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The undersigned hereby states, upon information and belief:

That each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed concurrently herewith was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of said Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey A. Schmidt  
Registration No. 41,574

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC  
Telephone: (202) 293-7060  
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

**23373**

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: November 6, 2006



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#### **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT** **UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

#### **MAIL STOP AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, except for the following: U.S. patents and/or U.S. patent publications; and co-pending non-provisional U.S. applications filed after June 30, 2003.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required. Nonetheless, because a statement can be made, one is filed herewith.

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
U.S. Appln. No.: 10/538,299

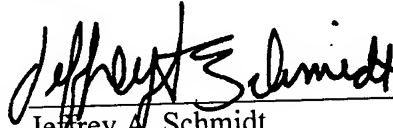
Atty. Docket: Q88381

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application citing such documents, together with an English-language version (if not already included) of at least that portion of the Communication indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Jeffrey A. Schmidt  
Registration No. 41,574

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC  
Telephone: (202) 293-7060  
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

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## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

*Complete if Known*

Application Number	10/538,299
Confirmation Number	1563
Filing Date	June 10, 2005
First Named Inventor	Masafumi FUKUNAGA
Art Unit	3682
Examiner Name	Unknown
Attorney Docket Number	Q88381

Sheet	1	of	1
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)		
		US 5,338,377	A	8/16/1994	Mitamura et al.
		US 5,137,375	A	8/11/1992	Murakami et al.
		US 5,800,637	A	9/1/1998	Yanamura et al.
		US 4,871,268		10/3/1989	Furumura et al.
		US 6,318,899	B1	11/20/2001	Boyd
		US 5,989,694	A	11/23/1999	Mitamura et al.
		US			
		US			
		US			

[illegible]

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		Patent Abstracts of Japan, Publication No. 09170624, published 6/30/1997	
		Patent Abstracts of Japan, Publication No. 2002155948, Published 5/31/2002	
		German Brochure, FAG Kugelfischer Georg Schafer KgaA, Publication No. WL 40 204 DA, Page 17	

**Date Considered**

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov), MPEP 901.04 or follow the hyperlink from the title of the document to the intranet. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.